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Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

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DDI 01844-84/1

30 MAR
1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Secretary of Defense
(International Security Affairs)

FROM: Robert M. Gates
Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT: The Directorate of Intelligence Research Program for 1984

1. Thank you for your thoughtful comments on our 1984 research program. I have shared them with my senior managers to assure they are aware of your concerns.

2. I take special note of the point you make on our work needing to be premonitory rather than historical. I am in complete agreement.

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3. You raised several specific areas for research in your memorandum. I believe the following comments may help answer your concerns.

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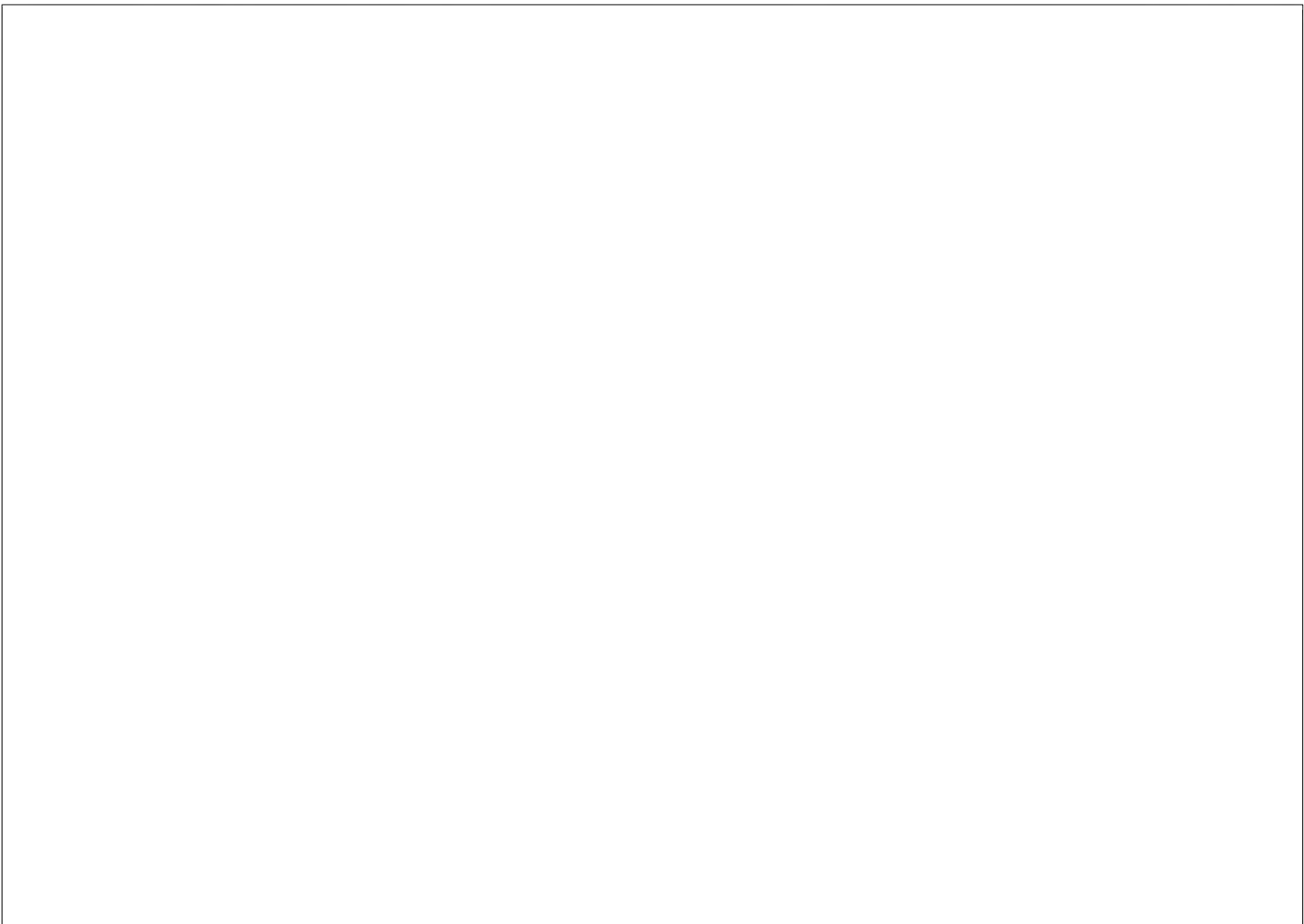
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4. As you can gather from these comments, not all of our efforts to develop insights on trends are reflected in the formal research program. We will also be sponsoring conferences with experts on key issues. Thus, we plan a symposium on Central America at the end of April to tap views of knowledgeable government officials, members of the private sector, and academics. We are most sensitive to the fact that our analysts--like most people--have to guard against the risk of developing mindsets from dealing over and over again with the same issues and the same customers.

5. Please continue to comment on your needs and our efforts just as you did in your memorandum and at the NIC conference; we count on this sort of dialogue to keep our product useful. And rest assured that we will pass our products in these and other fields to you as soon as they become available.

**Robert M. Gates**

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Enclosure:
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